

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038005	Application No. 10/712,007
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit 3762

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
MP	AA	Re. 33,258	07/10/1990	Onik et al.	1		
	AB	4,863,430	09/05/1989	Klyce et al.			
	AC	5,084,043	01/28/1992	Hertzmann et al.			
	AD	5,195,541	03/23/1993	Obenchain			
	AE	5,285,795	02/15/1994	Ryan et al.			
	AF	5,313,962	05/24/1994	Obenchain			
	AG	5,948,008	09/07/1999	Daikuzono			
MP	AH	5,976,105	11/02/1999	Marcove et al.			

U.S. Patent Documents							
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Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
MP	AI	2 012 388	05/15/1994	Russia	1		Yes	
	AJ							

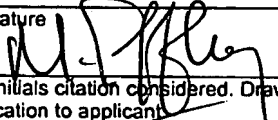
Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
MP	AK	Surgical Dynamics, "Discography System For Contemporary Spine Surgery," copyright 1991 (2 pages).
	AL	Surgical Dynamics, "Nucleotome System Automated Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy" (3 pages). 1990
	AM	Surgical Dynamics, "Nucleotome Flex II For Automated Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy," copyright 1992 (2 pages).
	AN	Surgical Dynamics, "Surgical Technique Nucleotome Flex II for Automated Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy," copyright 1992 (21 pages).
	AO	Surgical Dynamics, "Nucleotome Micro I For Automated Open Lumbar Discectomy," copyright 1992 (2 pages).
	AP	Surgical Dynamics, "Surgical Technique Nucleotome Micro I for Automated Open Lumbar Discectomy," copyright 1992 (4 pages).
	AQ	Bernhardt, et al., "Magnetic Resonance Imaging Analysis of Percutaneous Discectomy: A Preliminary Report," <i>Spine</i> , 18(2):211-217 (Feb 1993)
MP	BA	Capanna, A. et al., "Lumbar Discectomy-Percentage of disc removal and detection of anterior annulus performance," <i>Spine</i> , 6(6): 610-614 (Nov/Dec 1981)

Examiner Signature <i>[Signature]</i>	Date Considered 7/24/07
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

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Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
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Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
MP	IA	Trimedyn, The Less Invasive Laser Advantage, Omni Spinal Introduction System. 1999 or before
	IB	PRNewswire (Dec. 12, 1994), Two Physicians Perform First Outpatient Cervical Disc Procedure Using Laser Technology.
	IC	Introduction to the LDD Disc Kit, Oct. 16, 1996.
	ID	Mayer et al., Lasers in Percutaneous Disc Surgery: Beneficial Technology or Gimmick?, vol. 25 No. 251 (1993) pp. 38-44.
	IE	Schatz et al., Preliminary Experience With Percutaneous Laser Disc Decompression in the Treatment of Sciatica, vol. 38 No. 5, Oct. 1995, pp. 432-436.
	IF	Savitz M. A., Same-day Microsurgical Arthroscopic lateral-approach Laser-assisted (SMALL) Fluoroscopic Discectomy, vol. 80, Jun. 1994 pp. 1039-1045.
	IG	Bosacco et al., Functional Results of Percutaneous Laser Discectomy, Dec. 1996, pp. 825-828.
	IH	Sluijter M.E., The Use of Radiofrequency lesions For Pain Relief in Failed Back Patients, vol. 10 No. 1 (1988).
	II	Cosman et al., Theoretical Aspects of Radiofrequency lesions in the Dorsal Root Entry Zone, vol. 15 No. 6 (1984) pp. 945-950.
	IJ	Wilkins et al., Neurosurgery: Method of Making Nervous System Lesions, ch. 337, pp. 2490-2499. 1985
	IK	Yonezawa et al., The System and Procedure of percutaneous Intradiscal Laser Nucleotomy, vol. 15 No. 5 (1990) pp. 1175-1185.
	IL	Gottlob et al., Lasers in Surgery and Medicine: Holmium:YAG Laser Ablation of Human Intervertebral Disc: Preliminary Evaluation, vol. 12, (1991) pp. 86-91.
	IM	Buchelt et al., Laser in Surgery and Medicine: Fluorescence Guided Excimer Laser Ablation of Intervertebral Discs In Vitro, vol. 11, (1991) pp. 280-286.
	IN	Choy et al., Percutaneous Laser Disc Decompression: A New Therapeutic Modality, vol.17 No. 8, (1992) pp. 949-956.
	IO	Sluijter et al., Persistent Pain, Modern Methods of Treatment: Treatment of Chronic Back and neck Pain, vol. 3, (1981) pp. 141-179.
	IP	Sluijter, Int Disabil Studies: The use of Radio Frequency Lesions For Pain Relief in Failed Back, vol. 10, Sep. 4, 1996, pp. 141-179.
	IQ	Shatz et al., CJS JCC Preliminary Experience With Percutaneous Laser Disc Decompression in the Treatment of Sciatica, vol. 38 No. 5, Oct. 1995 pp. 432-436.
	IR	Sluyter, Radiofrequency Lesions in the Treatment of Cervical Pain Syndromes, Radionics, Inc. (1989).
	IS	Kelly L.E., Purification and Properties of a 23kDa Ca ²⁺ -binding Protein, (1990) 271, pp. 661-666.
	IT	Gehring W. J., Exploring the Homeobox, (1993), pp. 215-221.
	IU	Buchelt et al., Lasers in Surgery and Medicine: Erb:YAG and Hol:YAG Laser Ablation of Meniscus and Intervertebral Discs, vol. 12 No. 4, (1992) pp. 375-381.
MP	IV	Leu et al., Der Orthopade: Endoskopie der Wirbelsaule: Minimal-invasive Therapie, vol. 21, (1992) pp. 267-272.
	IW	Phillips et al., JMRI: MR Imaging of Ho: YAG Laser Discectomy with Histologic Correlation, vol. 3 No. 3, May/Jun. 1993.

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<i>mp</i>	JA	Bromm et al., Human Neurobiology: Nerve Fibre Discharges, Cerebral Potentials and Sensations Induced by CO2 laser Stimulation, vol. 3, (1984) pp. 33-40.
	JB	Kolarik et al., Photonucleolysis of Intervertebral Disc and it's Herniation, vol. 51, (1990) pp. 69-71.
	JC	Wolgin et al., Excimer Ablation of Human Intervertebral Disc at 308 Nanometers, vol. 9, (1989) pp. 124-131.
	JD	Davis, Early experience with Laser Disc Decompression, vol. 79 No. 1, (1992) j. Florida M.A.
	JE	Quigley et al., Laser Discectomy: Comparison of System, vol. 19 No. 3 (1994) pp. 319-322.
	JF	Mehta et al., The Treatment of Chronic back Pain: A Preliminary survey of the Effect of Radiofrequency Denervation of the Posterior Vertebral Joints, vol. 34 (1979) pp. 768-775.
	JG	Patil et al., Percutaneous Discectomy Using the Electromagnetic Field Focusing Probe: A Feasibility Study. <i>1991</i>
	JH	McCulloch et al., CMA Journal: Percutaneous Radiofrequency Lumbar Rhizolysis (rhizotomy), vol. 116, Jan. 8, 1977.
	JI	Yonezawa et al., The System and Procedure of Percutaneous Intradiscal Laser Nucleotomy, vol. 15 No. 11 (1990).
	JJ	Sminia et al., Effects of 434 MHz Microwave Hyperthermia applied to the rat in the region of the cervical Spinal Cord, vol. 3 No. 5 (1987) pp. 441-452.
	JK	Sluijter et al., Treatment of Chronic Back and Neck Pain by Percutaneous Therman Lesions, vol. 3 (1981).
	JL	Auhll, Richard A., "The Use of the Resectoscope in Gynecology." Biomedical Business International, Oct. 11, 1990, pp. 91-93.
	JM	Christian, C. et al., "Allograft Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction with Patellar Tendon: An Endoscopic Technique", Operative Techniques in Sports Medicine, vol. 1, No. 1, Jan. 1993, pp. 50-57.
	JN	Haupt, J. et al., "Experimental Study of Temperature Distributions and Thermal Transport During Radiofrequency Current Therapy of the Intervertebral Disc", Spine, vol. 21, No. 15, (1996), pp. 1808-1813.
	JO	Troussier, B. et al., "Percutaneous Intradiscal Radio-Frequency Thermocoagulation: A Cadaveric Study", Spine, vol. 20, No. 15, (Aug. 1995), pp. 1713-1718.
	JP	Beadling, L., "Bi-Polar electrosurgical devices: Sculpting the future of arthroscopy", Orthopedics today, vol. 17, No. 1, Jan. 1997, 4 pages.
	JQ	Ellman International Mfg., Inc., 1989, Catalog, pp. 1-15, 20.
	JR	Cosset, J.M., Resistive Radiofrequency (Low Frequency) Intertitial Heating (RF Technique), Interstitial Hyperthermia, Dec. 6, 1993, pp. 3-5, 37.
	JS	Attachment I: Competitive Literature on Generators with Bipolar Capabilities, IME Co., Ltd., pp. 60-86. <i>8/1998 or before</i>
	JT	Attachment II: Competitive Literature on Bipolar Forceps and Footswitch Controls, IME Co., Ltd. pp. 87-104. <i>8/1998 or before</i>
<i>mp</i>	JU	Gerber et al., Der Orthopade: Offene Laserchirurgie am Bewegungsapparat, vol. 25, (1996) pp. 56-63.

Examiner Signature <i>M. P. Sharkey</i>	Date Considered <i>7/24/07</i>
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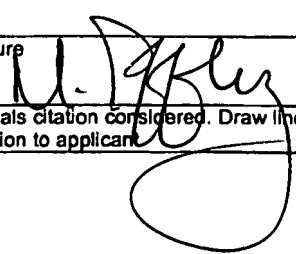
Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
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wp	KA	Vorwerck et al., Laserablation des Nucleus Pulposus: Optische Eigenschaften von Degeneriertem Bandscheibengewebe im Wellenlangenbereich von 200 bis 2200 nm, vol. 151 No. 6, (1989) pp. 725-728.
wp	KB	"Answer and Counterclaim of Defendant TYCO HEALTHCARE GROUP LP in Civil Action No. 01-558" (U.S. District Court, District of Columbia) <u>2601</u>

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MP	MA	WO 96/37146	11/28/96	WIPO					
	MB	WO 96/39085	12/12/96	WIPO					
	MC	WO 96/39966	12/19/96	WIPO					
	MD	WO 98/11944	03/26/98	WIPO					
	ME	WO 98/34558	08/13/98	WIPO					
	MF	WO 99/18878	04/22/99	WIPO					
	MG	WO 99/47058	09/23/99	WIPO					
MP	MH	WO 99/51149	10/14/99	WIPO					

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
MP	MI	Answer and Counterclaims of Defendant Arthrocare Corporation, filed 8/7/03, in re Smith & Nephew, Inc. v. Arthrocare Corporation (No. 03-2214 MaA, USDC, Western District of Tennessee, Western Division.
	MJ	Fine, B.S., and Yanoff, Y., Ocular Histology, 2 nd Ed., pp. 130-159, Harper & Row, Hagerstown, Maryland, 1979.
	MK	Cosman, E.R., and Cosman, B.J., "Methods of Making Nervous System Lesions," <u>Neurosurgery</u> , R.H. Wilkins and S.S. Rengachary, eds., Chapter 337, pp. 2490-2499 <u>1985</u>
	ML	Elsasser et al., "An instrument for transurethral resection without leakage of current," Medizinal-Markt/Acta Medicotecnica, Vol. 24 (4), 1976 129-134.
	MM	"Lase@... The Next Step in Conservative Therapy for Patients with Contained Herniated Discs," Clarus Medical, reprinted from http://www.clarus-medical.com/lase.htm , 5 pages <u>12/2002 or before</u>
	MN	"LASE Patient Information", Clarus medical, reprinted from http://www.clarus-medical.com/lase.htm , 5 pages <u>11/1999 or before</u>
	MO	Tobler et al., "Improved Outcome in the Treatment of Trigeminal Neuralgia by Percutaneous Stereostatic Rhizotomy with a New, Curved Tip Electrode," <u>Neurosurgery</u> , 12 (3), 1983, 313-317.
MP	MP	Zinn, K.M. and Mockel-Pohl, S., "The Lens and Zonules," Ocular Fine Structure for the Clinician, Vol. 13, No. 3, 1973, pp. 143-155

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